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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,398	07/29/2003	Sarah Zeller	200209155-1	7218
7590	07/01/2004		EXAMINER	
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration P.O. Box 272400 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400			NGUYEN, ANTHONY H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/629,398	ZELLER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Anthony H Nguyen	2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication app appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 July 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the trigger mechanism (claims 4 and 5) must be shown or the feature canceled from the claims. No new matter should be entered. Figure 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claims 6, 13 and 19 are objected to because it is unclear how the outputting print media from the stacking means can be oriented in the same direction as a completed print jobs in a main output tray.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in-

- (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
- (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

Claims 1,3-5,8, 10-12, 15,17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. (US 6,445,903)

With respect to claims 1,3,8,10,11,12, 15, 17,18, Hashimoto et al. teaches a printer and method for directing a print media through a print mechanism 6,7, and a main paper path, passing through the print mechanism, guiding the print media through a fusing apparatus or a fuser 9 after printing on the media and redirecting the printed media via a media flipper 10a, 10b for re-directing sheets (P). The printer includes a stacker 2 mounted in proximity to the fuser apparatus and a redirector 13 which directs the printed media to a second path and the stacker as shown in Figs.1 and 3 of Hashimoto et al. With respect to claims 4 and 5, Hashimoto et al. teaches the use of the conventional trigger mechanism such as sensors 19 and 20 (Hashimoto et al., col.8 lines 57-66).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) a patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2,6,9,13,16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto et al. (US 6,445,903) in view of Muraoka et al. (US 6,353,727).

With respect to claims 2,9 and 16, Hashimoto et al. teaches all that is claimed, except for the foldable tray for holding output. Muraoka et al. teaches a conventional foldable tray for holding output as shown in Figs. 4B and 8B in which the main tray is unobstructed by the foldable tray. In view of the teaching of Muraoka et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the printer and step of Hashimoto et al. by providing a foldable tray as taught by Muraoka et al. for reducing the size of a printer.

Claims 7, 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto et al. (US 6,445,903) in view of Katsuyama et al. (US 6,690,901).

Hashimoto et al. teaches a printer and method for directing a print media to a stacker assembly having substantially the structure and method as recited. See the explanation of Hashimoto et al. above. Hashimoto et al. does not teach the print system which is a color print system. Katsuyama et al. teaches a printer having a color print system 5 as shown in Fig.2 of Katsuyama et al. In view of the teaching of Katsuyama et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the printer and steps of Hashimoto et al. by substituting the color print system as taught by Katsuyama et al. for ensuring optimal print quality in place of the printing system 6,7 of Hashimoto et al.

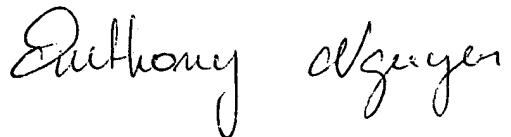
Conclusion

The patents to Bartholet et al., Kato et al. and Ogita et al. are cited to show other structures and method having obvious similarities to the claimed structure and method.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2169.

The examiner can normally be reached daily from 9 AM to 5PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld, can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Nguyen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Anthony" on the top line and "Nguyen" on the bottom line.

Anthony Nguyen
6/24/04
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800